

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) An inflation device (10) adapted for use in a vehicle occupant restraint system, comprising a housing (12), an igniter (14) received in the housing, and a first ~~cord-type~~ cord gas generator (22) connected to the housing (12), the ~~cord-type~~ cord gas generator (22) including a cord-shaped propellant strand (24), characterized in that the igniter housing (12) has at least one relief opening (20a, 20b) which is associated to a surrounding region outside the ~~cord-type~~ cord gas generator (22) and the housing (12).

2. (Currently amended) The inflation device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the housing encircles an igniter chamber (13) and that the igniter chamber (13) is in flow connection with the surrounding region (21) outside the housing (12) through at least one of the relief openings (20a, 20b) after activation of the igniter (16).[[N]]

3. (Original) The inflation device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the inflation device (10) has a pyrotechnical gas generator (30) including propellant elements (34), which gas generator is in flow connection through at least one of the relief openings (20a, 20b) with the igniter (14) after the ignition thereof, for igniting the propellant elements (34).

4. (Original) The inflation device according to Claim 3, characterized in that the propellant elements (34) in the pyrotechnical gas generator (30) have a longer combustion time than the cord-shaped propellant strand (24).

5. (Original) The inflation device according to Claim 3 or 4, characterized in that the propellant elements (34) are propellant tablets arranged in loose fill.

6. (Currently amended) The inflation device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the inflation device (10) has at least one further ~~cord-type~~ cord gas generator (22) connected to the housing (12).